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DALTON-IN-FURNESS
URBAN SANITARY DISTRICT



ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
Medical Officer of Health

For the Year 1942.



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J. SINKINSON & SON, PRINTERS,
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Medical Officer of Health.

DALTON-IN-FURNESS URBAN DISTRICT, 1942.

**To the Chairman and Members of the Dalton-in-Furness
Urban District Council.**

GENTLEMEN,

Medical Officers of Health are again asked by the Ministry to curtail their reports as much as possible.

INSPECTION OF DISTRICT.—If for no other reason the year under review would have been memorable by the retirement of Mr. Caine, your Sanitary Inspector, after more than forty years faithful service, during the whole of which time it has been my privilege to be associated with him as a loyal colleague. Mr. Caine has been instrumental in bringing about many improvements, not by any means, the least of which has been the conversion of the District from a privy-midden district to one almost entirely on the Water Carriage System, and this has been of great benefit to the Public Health, for whereas fifty years ago as many as forty-seven cases of Typhoid Fever were notified, during the last five years only one case of the disease has been reported, space will not permit but I could mention other great improvements which have been effected during Mr. Caine's long period of service and through his instrumentality, as I follow him into retirement I shall always look upon my long association with him as a pleasant abiding memory.

Mr. Caine has been succeeded by Mr. Johnstone who comes to us from Fleetwood and from my short association with him I should judge him to have a very thorough knowledge of his work and I wish him every success.

WATER SUPPLY.—The undertakers for the water supply to your District are the Barrow Corporation from whose reservoirs the supply is obtained

There has never been any shortage and the quality of the water has been beyond suspicion.

HOUSING.—Work under the Housing Acts has been to a great extent under abeyance and it must remain so until times become more normal.

HOUSING STATISTICS.

1. *Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the year :—*

(1)	(a)	Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	455
	(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	623
(2)	(a)	Number of dwelling-houses which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925	24
	(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	53
(3)		Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	10
(4)		Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for habitation	50

2. *Remedy of defects during the Year without service of formal notices :—*

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers	27
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3. *Action under Statutory Powers during the Year :—*

A.—Proceedings under sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936 :

(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which informal statutory notices were served requiring repairs	...	...	...	12
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices	...			4
(a)	By Owners	...	...	...	4
(b)	By Local Authority in default of owners				0

B.—Proceedings under Public Health Acts :

(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	...	...	..	...	42
(2)	Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices					42
(a)	By owners	...	...	...	...	42
(b)	By local authority in default of owners					0

4. *Housing Act, 1936 —Part IV.—Overcrowding.—*

(a)	(i)	Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year	...	...	...	2
	(ii)	Number of families dwelling therein	...			2
	(iii)	Number of persons dwelling therein	...			11
(b)		Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	...	...	...	0
(c)	(i)	Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	...	...	...	0
	(ii)	Number of persons concerned in such cases	...			} 0
				Adults		
				Children		

HOUSE REFUSE REMOVAL.—Shortage of labour and transport has made it difficult to carry out this important work satisfactorily, but on the whole I think there is no reason for serious complaint.

ASHPITS CLEANSING, 1942.

The table furnished by your Inspector will prove that this important branch of sanitary administration is not neglected.

Month	No. Ashpits Emptied	No. Loads Collected	No. Loads Trade Refuse	Total Loads	Approx. Tonn.
Jan.	44	186	...	...	172
Feb.	37	118	...	...	170
March	41	117	...	...	169
April	58	116	...	...	174
May	43	116	...	...	169
June	40	81	...	...	121
July	46	77	...	...	115
Aug.	45	85	...	...	128
Sept.	45	83	...	...	120
Oct.	13	73	...	...	107
Nov.	31	74	...	...	109
Dec.	5	78	...	...	114
	506	1204	...	...	1668

DAIRIES AND COWSHEDS.—The conditions under which the dairy cattle are housed in your District may be spoken of as fairly satisfactory, and with care in production there should be no reason why your District should not be provided with pure milk. Shortage of labour has made it very difficult to give the attention to the grooming of the cattle and cleansing of the sheds which should be observed in normal times. The difficulty of inspecting the more remote sheds still remains and must ever remain until your Inspector is provided with some means of carrying out his inspections.

GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area (acres) 7,994.

Population (1931 Census) 10,339

„ (1942 Estimated) 10,882.

Number of inhabited houses (1940) 3,102.

Rateable Value £40,024.

Amount produced by a Penny Rate £150.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS.

Births	Legitimate Illegitimate	Total	M	F.	Birth-rate per 1000
		135 17	73 8	62 9	
		152	81	71	13.9

DISTRIBUTION OF THE BIRTHS:—

	1st Quarter.	2nd Quarter.	3rd Quarter.	4th Quarter.	Total.	Rate per 1000
Dalton & Newton Lindal & Marton Askam & Heleth	20	28	21	23	92	
	5	5	2	1	13	
	10	13	13	11	47	
Totals	35	46	36	35	152	13.9

In 1941 there were 157 births which was equal to 14.4 per 1000

DEATHS.—To calculate the true death rate it is necessary to enumerate the total number of deaths occurring in the District and subtract from this number the total number of non-residents deaths which have occurred and been transferred away, and to this result add the number of residents who have died outside the District and have been transferred to the District, and I find that during the year there have been 77 male and 53 female deaths, a total of 130 producing a rate per 1000 of 11.9, in 1941 there were 121 deaths the rate then being 11.1 per 1000.

DISTRIBUTION OF THE DEATHS:—

	1st Quarter.		2nd Quarter.		3rd Quarter.		4th Quarter.		Total		Rate per 1000
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	
Dalton & Newton Lindal & Marton Askam & Ireleth	14	11	8	7	12	11	19	3	53	32	
	3	3	2	0	2	3	3	2	10	8	
	4	2	0	4	4	3	6	4	14	13	
Totals	21	16	10	11	18	17	28	9	77	53	11.8

AGE PERIODS AT WHICH THE DEATHS OCCURRED:—

	Dalton and Newton		Lindal and Marton		Askam and Ireleth		Totals.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1 year	3	1	3	—	1	2	7	3
Between 1 & 65	19	15	4	4	6	5	29	24
Upwards of 65	31	16	3	4	7	6	41	26
Totals	53	32	10	8	14	13	77	53

INFANTILE DEATHS —By Infantile Deaths we mean the deaths of infants before reaching the end of their first year of life as compared with the number of births reported, and at this age period I find there have been ten deaths, seven male and three females which equals a death-rate per 1000 births of 64.8. Last year at the same age period there were the same number of infant deaths, with a rate per 1000 births of 63.3.

DISTRIBUTION AND CAUSES.

		Dalton & Newton		Lindal & Marton		Askam & Ireleth		Totals.	
		M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Bronchitis	...	1	—	1	—	—	—	2	
Premature Birth	...	—	—	2	—	—	1	2	1
Congenital Defects	...	2	1	—	—	1	1	3	2
Totals	....	3	1	3	—	1	2	7	3
Death-rate per 1000 Births	...	43.4		230.7		63.8		65.7	

TUBERCULOSIS.—I find that there have been nine cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis, five males and four females, and eight cases of Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis, four males and four females.

NEW CASES	Dalton and Newton		Lindal and Marton		Askam and Ireleth		Total.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	5	3				1	5	4
Non-Pulm. Tuberculosis	3	4	1				4	4
	8	7	1			1	9	8

NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING 1942.

Age Periods	New Cases				Deaths			
	Pulmonary M.	Pulmonary F.	Non-Pulmonary M.	Non-Pulmonary F.	Pulmonary M.	Pulmonary F.	Non-Pulmonary M.	Non-Pulmonary F.
0—1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1—5	...	...		1	...	...	...	...
5—10	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...
10—15	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
15—20	1	...	...	1	1	...	...	...
20—25	1	2	...	1	...	1	...	...
25—35	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...
35—45	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
45—55	...	1	1	...	...	1	...	...
55—65	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
65 upwards	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...
Totals	5	4	4	4	1	4	...	...

The death-rate from Pulmonary Tuberculosis has been equal to .45 per 1000.

CANCER DEATHS.—From Cancer of various organs there have been thirteen deaths, eight males and five females, and this equals a death-rate of 1.18 per 1000. From the same disease last year there were eighteen deaths, equal to 1.6 per 1000.

	Male	Female	Total	Rate per 1000
Dalton & Newton	6	3	9	
Lindal & Marton	1	1	2	
Askam & Ireleth	1	1	2	
Totals	8	5	13	1.18

Age periods at which the deaths occurred and organs affected.

	25 to 35		35 to 45		45 to 55		55 to 65		65 up		Totals	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Œsophagus	1	...	1	...
Rectum	1	...	1	...	2	...
Uterus	1	...	...	...	...	...	1
Liver	1	...	...	...	1
Breast	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Stomach	2	...	...	...	1	1	3	1
Intestine	1	...	...	...	1	1	2	1
Total	1	3	1	1	1	4	2	8	5

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.—It is most satisfactory to note that for the third successive year there has been a comparative absence of notifiable diseases as the tables herewith will show, the one case of Scarlet Fever was extremely mild, and the case of Diphtheria gave a negative result when a throat swab was submitted to the Bacteriologist.

NOTIFICATION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

	Dalton and Newton		Lindal and Marton		Askam and Ireleth		Totals.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Scarlet Fever	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1
Diphtheria	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
Measles	...	1	...	...	1	...	1	1
Pneumonia	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
Erysipelas	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1
Totals	3	3	...	...	1	...	4	3

AGE INCIDENCE OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES :—

	under 1	2	3	4	5	10	15	20	35	45	65	Cases removed to Hospital.
	1 & 2	2 & 3	3 & 4	4 & 5	5 & 10	10 & 15	15 & 20	20 & 35	35 & 45	45 & 65	up-ward	
Scarlet Fever	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1
Diphtheria	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1
Measles	2	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
Pneumonia	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...
Erysipelas	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1
Cerebro Spinal Fever	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1
Totals	7	...	...	1	...	1	2	...	3	...	...	4

IMMUNISATION.—Every effort has been made throughout the year to secure the protection of the children from 9 months to 15 years from Diphtheria by Immunisation. Schools have been visited and there has been a monthly attendance at the Clinic, moreover in cases where parents prefer to have the Inoculation carried out by their family practitioner the necessary Serum is provided free.

LABORATORY WORK.—Medical Practitioners are provided with the facility for Laboratory Work and all sera are free.

As this will be my last Annual Report I should like to take the opportunity of expressing my thanks for the kindness which has been shown me during my 55 years as Medical Officer of Health. I have always been treated with the greatest consideration by each succeeding generation of Committees and Officials for which I am truly appreciative.

I am, Gentlemen,

Yours obediently,

G. H. PATTERSON,

L.R.C.P. LOND., M.R.C.S. ENG., D.P.H. LOND.

Medical Officer of Health.

18th May, 1943.

